

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 NEW DE 18214 211229Z
ACTION A-01

INFO OCT-01 SS-15 CPR-01 PRS-01 SY-05 NEA-10 NSCE-00
USSS-00 SSO-00 ISO-00 /034 W
-----115066 211256Z /45
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FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8172
USIA WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L NEW DELHI 18214

USIA FOR IOP-PRESIDENTIAL TASK FORCE

REF: A) NEW DELHI 18076 B) STATE 30227

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: OVIP (CARTER, JIMMY)
SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL VISIT: SCHEDULE

1. GOI HAS BEEN PROCEEDING WITH ALL PREPARATIONS FOR USING
PARLIAMENT AS SPEECH SITE AND THIS IS THEIR PREFERENCE. IN TERMS OF
HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE AND SITE AMBIANCE PARLIAMENT SETTING IS
FAR SUPERIOR TO VIGYAN BHAVAN WHICH IS ESSENTIALLY JUST A LARGE
UNDISTINGUISED HALL.

2. TV POOL PRODUCER, AL CHAMBERS, SPENT SEVERAL HOURS TUESDAY AT
PARLIAMENT SUPPORTED BY USIS STAFF MEETING WITH GOI OFFICIALS. AFTER
MUCH DIFFICULTY HE ACHIEVED WHAT HE CONSIDERED EXCELLENT POSITIONS
FOR CAMERAS. IT IS OUR FEELING THAT HE IS VERY SATISFIED WITH THE
RESULTS ACHIEVED AND WITH THE PROSPECTS FOR GOOD COVERAGE. HIS
PLANNING NOW CALLS FOR ARRIVAL OF THE EQUIPMENT ON DEC. 27,
THREE DAYS FOR INSTALLATION, AND A FULL-SCALE SOUND AND PICTURE
TEST ON DECEMBER 31.

3. GOI OFFICIALS AGREED TO POSITIONING OF A NEW KEY CAMERA POSITION
RIGHT IN CENTER AISLE ON LINE WITH FIRST ROW OF FIXED SEATS WHICH
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WOULD PROVIDE PERFECT HEAD SHOT OF PRESIDENT DELIVERING SPEECH.
OTHER AGREED LOCATIONS, WHICH CONFORM WITH POSITIONS OBTAINED AT
TIME OF PRE-ADVANCE, ARE A HAND HELD CAMERA TO RIGHT OF PODIUM AND A
LONG SHOT FROM THE CENTER BALCONY. NAVY FILM CREW HAS A POSITION IN
THE RIGHT ALCOVE. MICROWAVE LINE OF SIGHT TO OCS BUILDING CLEAR FROM
PARLIAMENT ROOF.

4. WE HAVE ALSO BEEN INFORMED THAT THE GOI FILM UNIT WILL BE SHOOTING IN COLOR WHICH WILL ENHANCE PROSPECTS FOR ADEQUATE LIGHTING IN THE HALL. IN ANY EVENT, MUCH LARGER SIZE OF VIGYAN BHAVAN MAKES LIGHTING THAT AREA FOR REACTION SHOTS EVEN MORE DIFFICULT THAN PARLIAMENT.

5. WE ALSO REMAIN UNCERTAIN ON SCHEDULED TIMING OF SPEECH. POOL PRODUCER, AFTER WE INFORMED HIM OF 4:35 (IST) TIME, QUERIED NEW YORK AND RECEIVED BACK INFORMATION THAT THAT WAS IN ERROR AND THE EARLIER PROPOSED 5:35 (IST) WAS CORRECT. AS YOU MUST REALIZE, A 4:35 (IST) SPEECH HITS THE U.S. AT 6:05 AM EST, BEFORE THE MORNING TV SHOWS. ONE HOUR LATER ENABLES TV TO TELECAST PROCEEDINGS LIVE ON EAST COAST AND POOL PRODUCER HAS BEEN BASING ALL HIS PREPARATIONS ON THE ASSUMPTION OF A LIVE SATELLITE TELECAST. INDIANS ENTHUSED AT THAT PROSPECT.

6. WITH PREPARATIONS SO FAR ADVANCED WE NEED A FINAL AND FIRM DECISION ON LOCATION AND TIME SO AS TO ENABLE GOI AND U.S. TV NETWORKS TO CONFIDENTLY PROCEED WITHOUT FEAR OF FURTHER CHANGES. GOHEEN

NOTE BY OC/T: DISTRIBUTION COORDINATED WITH MR. SUMMERS S/S-O.

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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 21-Dec-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: n/a
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Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Litigation History:
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